

Intuition Information for Masquerade and Wedding Parade participants

General

The Masquerade will be in the International in the Piccadilly Hotel at 2000 on Saturday. The hall will have the right side sectioned off as green room area. This area will have chairs, tables, jugs of water and mirrors. You will be able to leave things here before the Masquerade, *at your own risk*. Light in this area will be turned down during presentations. There is a mezzanine upstairs at the back of the hall. Tech will use this area. The nearest toilets are outside this mezzanine. Have something to cover your costume if you don't want people to see it when you go to the loo.

You will need to negotiate a metre-wide staircase to get to these loos.

You can bring a friend to help you if necessary, but gophers will also be available. Your friend won't get to see the Masquerade, though.

The green room (not the hall) will be available for you to leave things and rehearse in, from 1600 onwards on Saturday afternoon, although it may not be supervised.

The newsletter will use a digital camera to take pictures of all entrants before the Masquerade. Pictures will go on the website and winners will appear in the newsletter. Let me know if you don't want your picture taken or published.

Judging

We are going to try pre-judging this year to see if that avoids the awkward hiatus after the presentations and before the prizes are announced, during which your entire audience traditionally disappears! This means that entrants will need to be in the green room area, in costume, up to an hour before Masquerade start time. If anyone is going to suffer major inconvenience because of this, eg if they can't breathe or see from inside their costume, see me (Giulia De Cesare) at the tech rehearsal and we will look at alternatives for you.

Photocall

After the formal presentations and the wedding parade, the house lights will come up and Masquerade entrants who want to be photographed will walk through again, in the same order as before, while photos are taken. Again, this means you will need to stay in costume after your presentation. See me if this is a problem.

Wedding Parade Participants

You need not attend the full tech rehearsal. If you aren't coming to the tech rehearsal, please leave for me, in the Chaos Costume rooms (studio 1 and 3, 5th floor) before 1400 Saturday, a legible note with your names, when you were married, and anything you want said about the clothing, eg, how you acquired or made it, or any special features such as hand-sewn sequins picking out the family crest, that you would like mentioned.

I recommend you do come into the hall either during the rehearsal or on your own from 1800 Saturday onwards, to look at the setup and see where you will be – you will be in the green room with the Masquerade entrants – and what the stage is like. You should do a walk-through, from the green room and across the stage/catwalk before the audience starts to arrive (we hope to open the doors for the audience at 1945 Saturday evening.)

If you do want to do more than just a sprint, fashion-model style, across the stage, then coming to the tech rehearsal would be a good idea. Consider a bit of a twirl, curtsy, pirouette, to show off your clothing to best advantage.

There will be background music – maybe a spot of Vivaldi - and the tech rehearsal is the place to hear it and practise walking in step to it or even trying a quick waltz.

A Serious Warning: you will be sharing space with people who may be wearing things like full body paint or costumes with jagged edges. Although all care will be taken, I urge you to cover your clothes with something like a dressing gown, cloak, or even wrapping a hotel towel around yourself, until you are ready to go on.

Tech rehearsal

All Masquerade entrants must attend tech rehearsal from 0900 - 1000 on Saturday in the International. This will be your chance to talk to tech about what lighting and sound you want to use. It's also very important that you attend, on time, if you want to have a say in the following two areas:

1. Duration of entries

I had said in an early progress report that entries were to be one minute per person, up to four minutes for a group entry. I have been requested to allow longer for individual entries, and will do so if the consensus is for this, but we need to talk about it.

2. Configuration of the stage/catwalk

The stage is in the form of a set of moveable sections. We can have them long and narrow, or short and wide, or somewhere in between. We will choose the configuration that is safest and most convenient for most of you.

Bring the following to the tech rehearsal:

- Any tape/cd you want played, **cued**.
- Enough of the costume to give tech an idea of how it needs to be lit, ie to show colours, construction material, how it will move.
- Any **big or cumbersome** bits of the costume, eg, wings, to make sure you will
 - A, have enough room to move them in the space available, and
 - B, be able to get them to and from the stage/catwalk.
- Any props you want to rehearse with.
- The completed Masquerade entry form.

There will be a near-as-possible to full dress walk through from 1730 – 1800. This will be the only chance you get to walk through your presentation with the stage set up as decided earlier and the tech crew running your lights and sounds. Let me know if you can't attend.

Sequence of events on Saturday.

0900 - 1000	tech rehearsal
1700	hall available for private rehearsals
1730	final walk through (full dress if possible)
1900	Masquerade entrants in green room in costume for judging
1945	(provisional) doors open for audience
2000	Lights go down
Onwards	Announcements from MC, introduction of judges etc
	Masquerade presentations
	Wedding parade
	Masquerade photocall
	Wedding photocall
	Prizes announced and awarded
	Dance with live band